

TROPICAL DEPRESSION 26W

Tropical Depression 26W initially formed as a disturbance southeast of the Marianas on 29 September. After an initial slow track to the north, the disturbance turned briskly westward at about 14 kts (26 km/hr) as the subtropical ridge built to its north. The disturbance tracked just north of Guam bringing the island showers and thunderstorms early on 02 October. The disturbance became Tropical Depression 26W northwest of Guam late on 02 October. On 03 October at 00Z, a 30 kt (60 m/s) sustained ship observation was reported within 1 degree of the system center. Satellite imagery at this time indicated a low-level circulation with only scattered convection near the center. The convection became more widespread during the next 24 hours as the

Tropical Depression 26W's forward motion slowed in the weak steering region associated with a break in the mid-level subtropical ridge. Tropical Depression 26W did not intensify further. Satellite imagery from 4 October and 5 October showed it to be affected by increasing vertical wind shear. By 5 October, Tropical Depression 26W had increased its westward speed as the subtropical ridge redeveloped to its north. Tropical Depression 26W continued to experience vertical wind shear, as evident by 00Z 6 October visible imagery indicating that the main area of convection was distinctly separated from its low-level circulation center. The system remained a tropical depression as indicated by 30 kt (60m/s) wind ship observations near its center. Tropical Depression 26W dissipated over the Philippine Sea on 7 October as it merged with a frontal boundary.

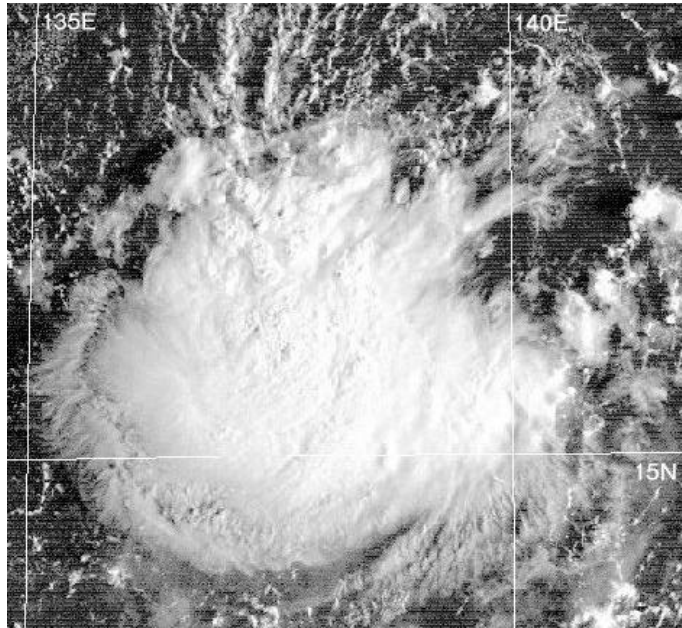


Figure 3-26-1 Tropical Depression 26W increasing in convection (032132Z October visible GMS imagery).

126E 128E 130E 132E 134E 136E 138E 140E 142E 144E 146E 148E 150E 152E 154E 156E 158E

Tropical Depression 26W

29 Sep to 07 Oct 1997

MIN SLP 1000 mb

MAX INTENSITY 30 kt

LEGEND

--- 24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
 ○○○ TROPICAL DISTURBANCE/
 TROPICAL DEPRESSION
~~---~~ TROPICAL STORM
~~---~~ TYPHOON/SUPER TYPHOON

24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
 IDENTIFICATION
 DTG SPD(KT) INT(KT)
 XXXXZ XX XXX

26N
24N
22N
20N
18N
16N
14N
12N
10N
8N
6N

